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### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

Information collaboration and credibility assessment is based upon a metadata-enhanced database (metabase) that maintains and uses metadata to evaluate the reliability of the metabase information, evaluate the reliability of the metabase users, improve the quality of the metabase information, provide various ancillary services, and provide enhanced browsing functionality. The metabase evaluates the reliability of the metabase information by evaluating the reliability of the metabase users, and evaluates the reliability of the metabase users by evaluating the reliability of the metabase information. A user ranking system is used to generate a relative ranking for each user based upon the metadata. A metadata-enhanced browser uses metadata to provide improved browsing services. A metadata-enhanced robot enables various applications to link to a metabase.

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